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THE FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB OF VICTORIA.

THE monthly meeting of the Club was held at the Royal Society's Hall, on Monday evening, 10th August, 1885.

The president, the Rev. J. J. Halley, occupied the chair, and about fifty members and visitors were present.

The hon. librarian acknowledged the receipt of the following donations to the Club's library:—

"Proceedings of the Royal Society of Victoria," 19 vols., from the Society, "Proceedings of Linnean Society of New South Wales," Vol. X., part 2, from the Society;" "Proceedings of Royal Society of Queensland," Vol. I., parts 2, 3, and 4, from the Society; and also announced the receipt from Mrs. Curdie, of a small collection of foreign coleoptera, formerly belonging to the late Dr. Curdie, as a donation to the Club's museum.

The hon. secretary read a short account of the Club excursion to Cheltenham on the 8th inst., which, though rather poorly attended, proved most enjoyable on account of the splendid day. Some of the earlier spring flowers such as *Epacris impressa*, *Hibbertia fasciculata*, *H. densiflora*, *H. stricta*, *Acacia suaveolens*, and *Hovea linearis* were more or less abundant. The only orchid noted in bloom was *Cyrtostylis reniformis*, but plants of *Pterostylis barbata* and *Lyperanthus nigricans* were seen. The ferns *Schizæa bifida*, and *Gleichenia circinata* were found growing in one of the hollows. The pools which occur in the numerous hollows proved good fishing grounds for fresh water crustaceans, &c., amongst other captures being the large silvery-grey water spider, *Argyrometra aquatica*; the small red water spiders *Hydrachna globulus* and *Limnochares aquatica*, the shield shrimp, *Apus Cancriformis*, and several fresh water insects and larvæ.

The following ladies and gentlemen were elected members of the Club:—Miss Lange, Miss A. Lange, Mrs. Lange, Miss Rankin,

Rev. W. T. Whan, M.A., Messrs H. Andrews, I. Batey, W. Brook, John Dennant, C. Frost. M. Gamble, A. J. Hall, F. C. Lange, G. Meyler, W. E. Pickles, F.R.M.S., R. N. Smith, and Wm. Taylor.

Papers read:—1. Mr. C. A. Topp, M.A., read the first part of a paper entitled "A geological sketch of South-western Victoria," contributed by Mr. J. Dennant, of Hamilton. This, after giving a geological description of the district, gave a detailed account of the older formations occurring between the Glenelg and Wando rivers, county of Dundas.

2. The hon secretary read the first part of a popular paper on "The Habits of Native Birds," contributed by Mr. Isaac Batey, of Sunbury. The writer's observations respecting crows, which formed the subject of this part, created considerable discussion among those present.

The following were the principal exhibits of the evening:—By Mr. E. Bage, three sp. of water spiders, shield shrimps, water beetles, and small entomostraca obtained at Cheltenham excursion, also *Vorticella* under the microscope; by Mr. F. G. A. Barnard, geological specimens from Buninyong; by Mr. A. W. Coles, collection of birds from Townsville, Queensland, by Rev. A. W. Cresswell, M.A., flowering stem of the larger grass-tree *Xanthorrhæa australis*; by Rev. J. J. Halley, cheap portable microscope stand, by Baker, of London; by Mr. T. J. Hughes, bird of paradise; by Mr. H. Kennon, small pearl obtained from an oyster purchased in Melbourne, also human teeth found on beech at Stewart Island; by Mr. T. A. Forbes-Leith, the American migratory thrush, *Turdus migratorius*, British song thrush, *Turdus musicus*, American red-winged blackbird, *Ageleus phæniceus*, and British blackbird, *Turdus merula*, also feathers of the emu with double and triple shafts; by Mr. J. McKibbin, orchids in bloom, *Pterostylis curta*, *P. pedunculata*, *P. nutans*, also an apparently hybrid species of *Pterostylis*, four species of lizards, with double and triple tails; by Mr. F. Reader, fungi *Polyporus borealis*, Fr., new to Australia, and *P. ochroleucus*, Berk., *P. tardus*, Berk., and *Didymium farinaceum* hitherto unrecorded for Victoria; by Mr. G. Rose, fossils from Cheltenham.

After the usual *conversazione* the meeting terminated.

TO WILSON'S PROMONTORY OVERLAND.

BY J. B. GREGORY, M.A., AND A. H. S. LUCAS, M.A.

PART II.

THE track now for about a mile skirted a grassy flat which was bordered on our left by a swamp covered with tall tree scrub, and on our